

11-20-06

Please amend the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 4¹³, as follows:

If locking of the locking member 81 is released, the die cushion pad 2 rises under the effect of the restoration force of the air pressure of the pneumatic cylinder unit 80. On the other hand, the pressure oil from the hydraulic pump 3 and accumulator 4 is supplied to the first hydraulic chamber 53 of the hydraulic control unit 5, and the pressure of the pressure oil inside the first hydraulic chamber 53 gradually rises. However, the actuation speed of the hydraulic control unit 5 is lower than that of the pneumatic control unit 80. In other words, the lift speed of the second rod 54 is less than the lift speed of the first rod 21. As a result, the first rod 21 and second rod 54 are separated, and after the die cushion pad 2 reaches the upper dead center, the first rod 21 and second rod 25 are brought into contact again. Because the first rod 21 and second rod 54 are thus separated, when the die cushion pad 2 ~~reached-reaches~~ reaches the upper dead center, the pressure of the hydraulic control unit 5 does not act upon the die cushion pad 2. A damper member 82 using the working oil is provided in the pneumatic control unit 80 to moderate the impact occurring when the die cushion pad 2 reaches the upper dead center, but a load applied to the damper member 82 is not increased due to the extension of the second rod 54.